argument raised by Mr. Govindan and well answered by Mr. Thampi, that is, even though the number of a certain community is very small, if there is a need for legislation with reference to that community then certainly we must see that such legislation is passed. But I should also say that if there is only one person who is legitimately suffering for want of a social legislation that person should not be denied the right of having a special legislation for him. Sir, this community is closely allied in manners and customs to the Nair community and why should this legislation which may give them additional privileges be denied to them. With these words, I leave the Bill for the consideration of the House.

The motion that this Bill be read in Council was put to vote and carried.

Secretary: The Title of the bill shall be "THE TRAVANCORE KRISHNANVAKA MARUMAKKATHAYAM BILL".

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: Sir, I move that the Bill may be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—

1. Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.
2. ,, G. Narayana Aiyar.
3. ,, Kalloor Narayana Pillai.
4. ,, M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar.
5. ,, V. S. Arumukham Pillai.
6. ,, James Fletcher.
7. ,, P. R. Godavarma Raja.
8. ,, K. K. Kuruvila.
9. ,, Kochikkal P. Balakrishnan Tampi.
10. ,, Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair.
11. ,, M. Govindan.
12. ,, T. Mahomed Ismail.
13. ,, K. M. Korah.
14. ,, Padiyara Joseph Kunju.
15. Mrs. Abernam Gnanasikhamony.
16. Mr. M. S. Anirudhan.
17. ,, A. Easwara Pillai. (co-opted.)
18. ,, Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai.
19. ,, K. R. Elenkath.

Mr. M. S. Anirudhan: I second the motion.

Mr. A. Easwara Pillai: I thought of proposing an amendment to include no members who oppose the Bill.

President: The honourable member is at liberty to move any amendment. I do not like to create an impression in the

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[President]

minds of the members of the particular community that all the view points were not considered so far as the introduction of this Bill is concerned.

The motion that the honourable members whose names were read out may form the members of the Select Committee was then put to vote and carried.

THE TRAVANCORE HINDU WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO PROPERTY BILL.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, I request that leave may be granted for the introduction of the Travancore Hindu Women's rights to property bill.

Mr. A. Easwara Pillai: I second it. Sir, I want to make an observation that the Select Committee formed for the purpose of considering the Krishnanvaka Marumakkathayam Bill may be empowered to take evidence.

President: Order, order. It is expected that all honourable members should be alert. We have passed from that subject and have taken up the next one on the agenda, that is The Hindu Women's Rights to Property Bill. But I understand that the honourable member wants that liberties should be given to the Select Committee to take evidence. That is noted. What is the time within which the Select Committee is expected to submit its report?

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: Within two months.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: I oppose the motion moved by the honourable member Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar. The present mode of giving maintenance to the childless widow in a Mithakshara family is a long-established usage. The custom is to fix the amount of maintenance consistent with the needs of the widow and the status of the family from whom she claims maintenance. The needs of a childless widow are limited, but at the same time, the needs of her husband's family are far more. Her position has undergone a vast change with her becoming a widow. Her family cannot grow. Nobody approaches her for even subscriptions. Generally the good feeling and natural affection of a childless widow is found to be inclined more towards the members of her original family than to the members of her husband's family. Naturally if the widow is allowed to possess more than what is required for her expenses, she will only allow such excess to flow into the hands of the members

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